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for drinks yesterday. Next, Mr. McCollum, head of the Continental Oil Company, visited me. Both are disturbed by the tremendous drop yesterday in the value of securities on the American Stock Exchanges, as well as here and throughout the continent. It looks as if a panicky situation has arisen.

Mary and Barry Bingham arrived today to stay with us, as did Rowland Burden-Muller.

We had a dinner at the house tonight for

High Commissioner for Canada and Mrs. Drew
Earl and Countess of Cromer
Provost and Mrs. Noel Annan
Mr. Burden Muller
Mrs. Douglas Fairbanks
Mr. and Mrs. Montague Brown
Mrs. Hayward
Mr. Weidenfeld

May 30, 1962 - Wednesday

Today is Memorial Day, an American public holiday. E and I went out to the country to Audrey Pleydell-Bouverie's place, Julian's, in Hertfordshire. I had not seen it for twent y years, and it is even more beautiful than I remembered. The house is William & Mary, with an unusual cupola on top. There is a succession of walled gardens, glass houses, and a carp pond dating from monastic days. She has two outdoor aviaries, homes of wonderful gay colored birds about the size of parakeets. They fly freely in and out of their large cages, perching and twittering in the trees, and apparently taking their pleasure wherever they wish. Some of them are of homing varieties. Their only natural enemy is the owl.

David Gibbs was also a guest.

I came back to town, had my hair washed, then went to the office to attend to a NIACT telegram. I brooded over it tonight, and sent this answer:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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